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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Rumania

SUBJECT

Constanta--Port Conditions: Rumanian Coastal Patrol/Boarding, Search Procedure, Security Guards/Conditions Ashore/Restricted Areas and Installations/Pier Facilities/Vessels Sighted

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[The Office of Naval Intelligence furnished the following information to CIA for IAC dissemination]

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2. Rumanian Coastal Patrol:

In the approaches to Constanta there are small patrol boats, 60 to 80 ft ^{LY}50 in length, grey in color and armed with one small automatic gun up forward, which operate on patrol duty some 10 miles off the Rumanian coast.

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Port Security Guards: Two armed guards were located on each pier in the harbor. One of these guards remained at the foot or harbor end of the pier, while the other guard patrolled the length of his assigned pier and the area at the head of the pier. Two guards armed with telescopic-sight rifles remained permanently posted at the east end of the South Breakwater. All guards wore the Soviet naval infantry uniform.

4. Conditions in Constanta:

Military Personnel: Numerous off-duty military personnel [described as "several hundreds"] were observed about Constanta streets. These troops were clad in khaki/green uniforms which were identified as those worn by Soviet naval infantry and coastal defense personnel, with shoulder boards and visored cap. [redacted] naval infantry uniforms with shoulder boards having yellow backgrounds with green piping around the edges, and with two gold colored stars aligned lengthwise on the yellow backgrounds. In addition, naval personnel clad in dark blue uniforms were seen in sizeable numbers. No cap markings or uniform devices were noted. No helmeted troops were observed. [redacted] a military curfew existed from 0200 until 0700. During this time no military personnel were permitted on the streets. 25X1

Other Conditions: No civil defense structures were observed. No aircraft were seen or heard in the area. The city itself was extremely dirty and the people appeared poorly clothed and ill fed. The cost of food was prohibitive, with toilet articles such as soap and razor blades either non-existent or too high priced for the average person. 25X1

Civilian Attitudes: [redacted] no one ashore who spoke of conditions in Constanta, or who made political or other comments which might have reflected discontent with the Government. 25X1

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5. Port Restricted Areas and Installations:

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The area west of the casino was surrounded by armed guards and a high wooden fence prevented seeing within. Several bulldozers and tractor-graders were at work leveling ground in the coastal area southwest of the petroleum tanks. Petroleum tanks were observed only in the area west of the South Breakwater. A new building was under construction at the head of the petroleum basin. New large diameter petroleum pipe lines were being installed along the south side of the petroleum basin's north pier. A large radar mast was observed south-south-west of the radio station masts. This mast was described as being over 100 ft high, about equal in height to the radio station masts and resembling a high, vertical "bedspring" composed of vertical girders with smaller horizontal crosspieces between girders.

A gun emplacement was located on the South Breakwater west of the petroleum basin.

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No gun emplacements or military installations were observed other than those previously described.

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7. Naval Vessels Sighted in Constanta Harbor:

The following Rumanian naval vessels moored alongside various piers, were present in port [redacted] one Aquilla Class destroyer, one Regele Ferdinand Class destroyer, the sail training ship "Mircea", six small patrol boats, and one small frigate.

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8. Merchant Vessels Sighted in Constanta Harbor:

[redacted] four [redacted] merchant vessels of which one was a freighter (the cargo was timber) and the other three were tankers. [redacted] tanker which appeared to be laid up; there was also the [redacted] tanker. In addition we noted an idle Rumanian passenger liner ("9000 DWT est." [i.e. of the approximate outside dimensions of a freighter of 9000 deadweight tons]). There were also two Soviet tankers which appeared to be in good condition and seemed to be of recent construction. These ships carried

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radar masts. One of them completed loading and departed [redacted]
[redacted] was replaced at the loading berth by a [redacted] tanker.

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Construction at Floating Dock Basin: One ship was observed under construction at the floating dock basin. Her framework was completed to date and appeared to be of merchant ship construction. No other activity was observed in this area.

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